

Testimony
Senate Bill 2283 – Department of Human Services
Senate Human Services Committee
Senator Judy Lee, Chairman
January 27, 2009

Chairman Lee, members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Maggie Anderson, Director of the Medical Services Division, for the Department of Human Services. I am here today to provide information and offer an [amendment](#) regarding Senate Bill 2283.

This bill would require the North Dakota Medicaid program to expand Medicaid coverage for pregnant women to 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Currently, the income level for pregnant women is 133 percent.

The current average Medicaid cost per pregnancy is \$3,761.48, and the Department estimates an additional 1,234 pregnant women per year would receive coverage through Medicaid, with an expansion to 200 percent.

The total fiscal impact for 24 months is \$10,127,421, of which \$3,767,451 are general funds. However, this change will require approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and will involve changes to the Department's eligibility system (Vision). Based on the staff effort needed for these items and in consideration of the other program enhancements and expansions in the 2009-2011 Executive Budget, we would estimate the effective date to be no earlier than January 1, 2010.

I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.